Planning Series

Makobe-Grays River Provincial Park

Interim Management Statement

Ontario

Ministry of Natural Resources

Hon. Vincent G. Kerrio
Minister

Mary Mogford
Deputy Minister

Ministry of
Natural
Resources

Ontario

July 28, 1986

REGIONAL DIRECTOR'S APPROVAL STATEMENT

This Interim Management Statement will provide interim direction for the management of Makobe-Grays River Provincial Park until a comprehensive Park Management Plan is prepared.

This statement will provide the basis for the subsequent preparation of the Park Management Plan.

I am pleased to approve this Interim Management Statement for Makobe-Grays River Provincial Park.

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Regional Director
Northeastern Region

3586

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Additional information about the park and copies of this publication are available from the District Manager, Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources, P.O. Box 38, Lakeshore Drive, Temagami, Ontario, P0H 2H0, telephone: (705) 569-3622.

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MAKOBE-GRAYS RIVER PROVINCIAL PARK
INTERIM MANAGEMENT STATEMENT

I LAND TENURE

The Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources received approval to designate the Makobe-Grays River area as a provincial park on the 28th of November, 1984. The park includes 1427 ha of land and water, connected to the boundary of the Lady Evelyn-Smoothwater Provincial Park (Figure 1).

There are no land dispositions within the park.

Guidelines:

These Crown lands will be retained for provincial park purposes. There will be no dispositions to patent within the park.

II EXISTING AND PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT

Makobe-Grays River Provincial Park is approximately 35 km southwest of the Town of Kirkland Lake and approximately 65 km northeast of the Town of Temagami. Access is afforded to the area by air or water. There are no roads to the park.

Visitors usually enter the waterway from the Lady Evelyn-Smoothwater Provincial Park to the south.

Guidelines:

Roads are not permitted in the park. Backcountry campsites and portages will be maintained to provincial park standards as funds and priorities permit. The park remains as an undeveloped area with no plans to develop new facilities.

III RECREATION ACTIVITIES

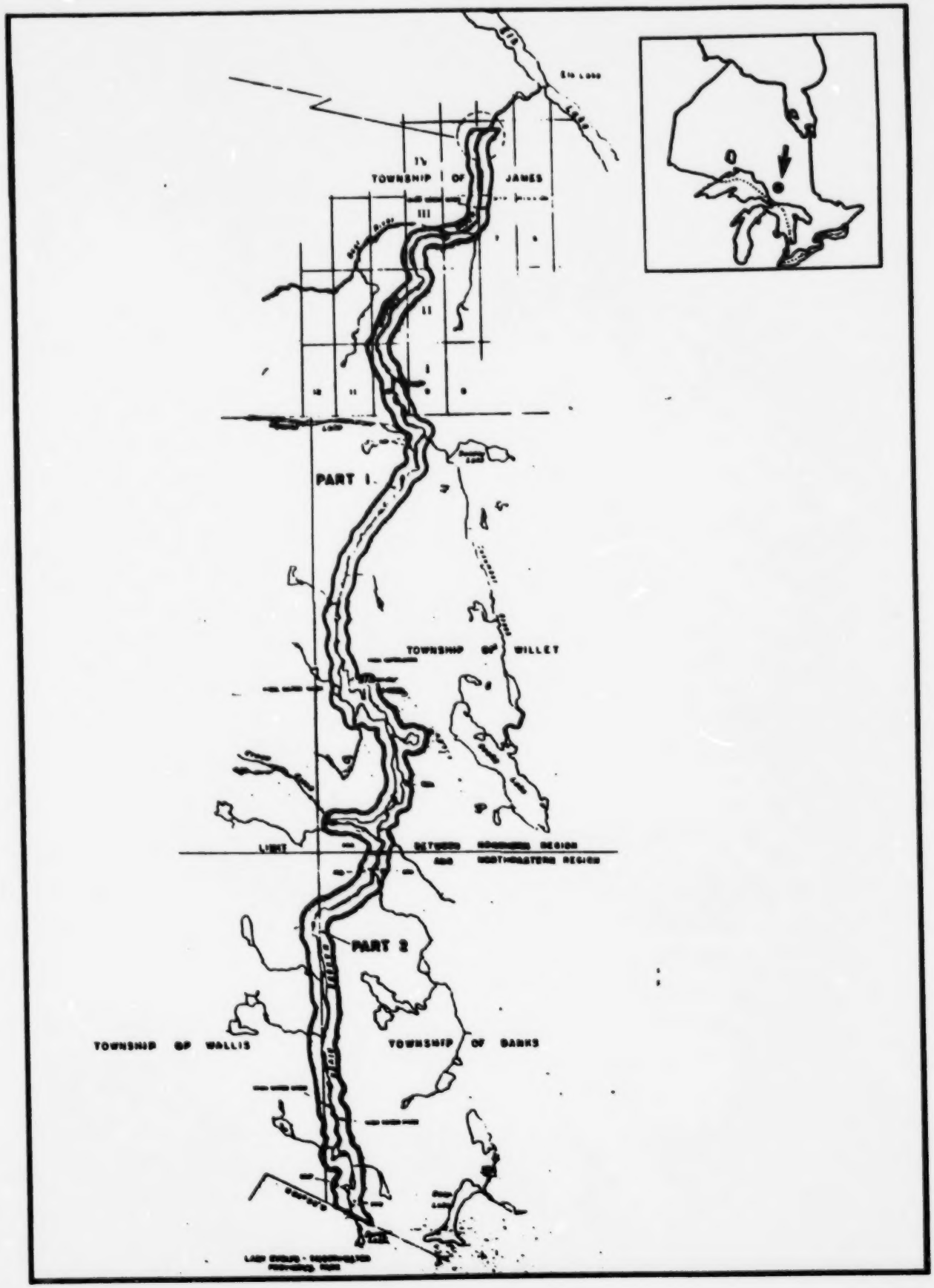
Recreation activities presently occurring in and adjacent to the park include backcountry camping, wildlife viewing, sportfishing, canoeing, some motorboating, and hunting.

Guidelines:

Existing recreational activities will continue as long as park values are not affected. The Temagami Administrative District will monitor the levels and patterns of uses. Regulations governing recreational uses will apply (eg. Provincial Parks Act, Public Lands Act, Game and Fish Act, etc.).

Figure 1

MAKOBE–GRAYS RIVER
PROVINCIAL PARK



IV COMMERCIAL ACTIVITIES

The following commercial activities occur within the park: bait fishing, trapping, and commercial tourism (ie. fly-in operations with no structures developed in the park). Although it is not occurring now, mineral exploration and development is a recommended use in the Backgrounder and Temagami District Land Use Guidelines.

Guidelines:

Bait fishing, trapping, and commercial tourism operations will continue. Fly-in access will continue as is in the short-term with consideration to designating certain locations for this use in the future.

Mineral exploration and development will be permitted through the policies and guidelines for exploratory licences of occupation as administered by the Ontario Ministry of Northern Development and Mines. Mineral exploration is currently limited by the Temagami Indian Land Claim.

There will be no aggregate extraction or commercial forestry within the park.

V NATIVE INTERESTS

The Makobe-Grays Provincial Park is within an area affected by an Indian land claim, which is described in detail in the Sudbury Mining Recorder's Office.

In August 1973, the Bear Island Foundation, Gary Potts, William Twain, and Maurice Mackenzie Jr. filed Cautions under The Land Titles Act thereby preventing the registration of Crown patents or leases in 110 townships in the Districts of Timiskaming, Sudbury, and Nipissing. This was modified in 1978 to include another 21 townships. These Cautions were registered to:

- assert a land claim, claiming title in fee simple to the 131 townships, asserting that their title has never been ceded, surrendered, or purchased;

- stop the proposed Maple Mountain development.

In May 1974, a hearing was convened by the Director of Titles to "determine whether the said Cautions should prevent the registration of Crown grants of lands affected by the Cautions". In November 1976, the Ontario Cabinet, on the recommendation of the Minister of Natural Resources, instructed that legal action be undertaken to attempt to remove the Cautions.

In 1978, the 131 townships under Caution were withdrawn from staking and recording of mining claims under Section 38(f) [now section 31(f)] of The Mining Act.

Guidelines:

At the time of writing, the Cautions were in effect. Persons interested in the area and the ongoing status of the Caution should contact the Sudbury Mining Recorder.

VI NATURAL AND CULTURAL RESOURCES

There have been no studies or inventories of natural and cultural resources in the park. Some background information is available in the Temagami Administrative District Office.

Guidelines:

The Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources will encourage natural and cultural resource studies and inventories. This information will be collected for cultural and natural resource management and provincial park management planning purposes.

Forest protection (eg. fire and insect infestation management) will continue through district management efforts.

VII VISITOR SERVICES

Information about the park is available in the Temagami District Canoe Routes brochure and a fact sheet.

Guidelines:

Existing publications, Temagami District Canoe Routes, and Makobe-Grays River Provincial Park Fact Sheet will be available in Temagami District Office, The Sudbury Region, and Parks & Recreational Areas Branch in Toronto. The Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources will identify existing literature and maps to be updated to identify the Makobe-Grays area as a provincial park.

VIII RESEARCH

Research by government agencies, universities, other institutions, or individuals can be permitted through the policy for research in provincial parks.

Guidelines:

Applications for research are available from the Temagami Administrative District Office. Completed applications can be submitted for approval subject to the District Manager's review.

IX MARKETING

The Makobe-Grays River is a waterway class provincial park adjacent to the Lady Evelyn-Smoothwater Provincial Park. Various tourism publications identify the area as a canoe route.

Guidelines:

The public will be made aware of the provincial park status of the waterway. Marketing efforts for the Lady Evelyn-Smoothwater Provincial Park will also promote the use of Makobe-Grays River Provincial Park. Marketing efforts will be reviewed in conjunction with the interior maintenance program for Lady Evelyn-Smoothwater Provincial Park.

SELECTED REFERENCES

Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources, Backgrounder, Land Use Guidelines, 1983.

Temagami Canoe Routes (out of print), 1979.

Temagami District Canoe Routes, 1984.

Temagami District Land Use Guidelines, 1983.

Provincial Parks Planning and Management Policies, 1978.